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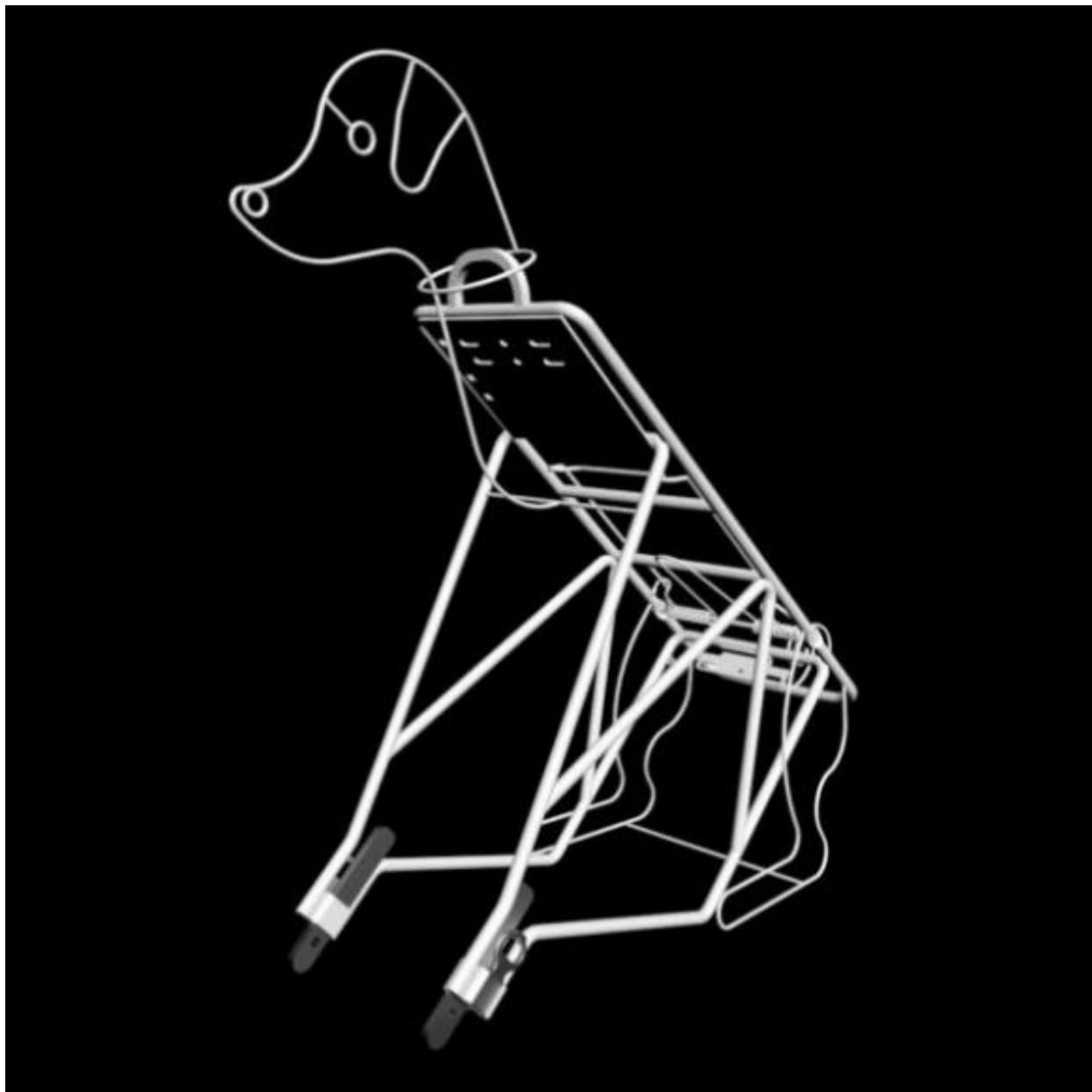
▲ART

MOST

**Justin Eagle**  
Friday 1 March 2013

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Caption:

**Justin Eagle**

Justin Eagle is an upcoming print artist whose tongue-in-cheek style utilises iconic cultural symbols to

Photographer:



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**visually discuss identity. His latest exhibition 'food for the poor daddy not home from work yet' opens at Vitrine Gallery next week.**

#### **What is about 'printing' as a medium that interests you?**

I have always been interested in the reproduced image or how the image is represented. When I was younger the reproduced image in magazines or fanzines was extremely powerful for me, I remember buying a Sex Pistols book which had just photographs of them on tour or practising in the studio. Even to this day I can remember each page and I loved the images of Malcolm McLaren and the hippy roadies juxtaposed with the image of John Lydon and Sid Vicious in Paris. They looked like aliens.

I became interested in using the photographic image to understand the world. The world only really makes sense to me when I see an image of the thing. When I went to art school in the late 90s I began making objects but then I would just photograph them or film them. It's this distance that helps me get it and makes the thing more tangible.

#### **If you could describe the characteristics that join your work- both conceptually and in terms of design (i.e. colour palette, photography etc) what would they be and how did you arrive at these?**

There is image and object and these tie in through the idea of the reproductive nature of the images used. I begin with an idea or ideology in the case of my current Vitrine show. I have been looking at domestication of animals and also psychoanalysis and the virtual space created through 3d modelling programmes. With the dogs, I have been thinking about how an animal once domesticated wants to serve its owner and I thought that these dogs have become confused with this process and have morphed into objects that are in some ways defunct. CD racks are a defunct form of furniture and the bike rack only is useful in association with a bike, so these forms are produced in the show as a misinterpretation of their original intentions.

#### **Explain the title of this latest show and what it aims to achieve?**

The title of the show 'food for the poor daddy not home from work yet' comes from a thought process, rather than a quote. The work in the show has many meanings and I wanted a title that reflected that; something that would suggest multiple readings without dictating what the reader should find

#### **How have you and your art developed since you started?**

I suppose I am trusting my own instincts more and more. This has really been forged from my work being shown publicly through Vitrine. I have undone a lot of 'learnt' stuff that I gained from art school which taught you to objectify yourself and also to fit into an existing set of languages so that in a way you just end up repeating something that exists already. I do like the feeling of being contemporary and new, I remember my dad talking about being a mod in the 60s and how the world was so new and how he didn't repeat the world that his parents inhabited, I like that idea and I am not sure I can do this but I do feel eroticised by the 'new' - whatever that is. I also feel like I am participating in the world with the work, the new work seems to run alongside the world working with it, not critiquing it, but forming a parallel and this is something I have wanted to achieve for a long time.

#### **Who are your greatest stylistic influences?**

Thelonus Monk, Marcel Duchamp, Rupert the Bear, Telford town, Stanley Kubrick, Wyndham Lewis, studio pressure.

#### **Where do you see yourself in the next five years?**

I would like to show more. There was a time pre 2011 where I was trying to perfect everything before I showed it and I have now suddenly realised this does not work for me, so I plan to learn more in public and to develop the work in a way that is progressive and continue the momentum of the past couple of years.

#### **What are you working on at the moment?**

I am working on getting the dog bike rack that features in my show made into a sculpture, I also am recreating an object that my grandad had hanging on the wall in his house, it always intrigued me firstly because he made it and secondly I want to see if it still interests me! It's a lid of a toilet seat with keys stuck onto it, it might be a real insight into his mind!!!! Sometimes things from my past pop up into head and I want to pursue them, in a stream of consciousness way and then try to build something else around it.

#### **If you could describe yourself in three words what would they be?**

Neurotic skinny perfectionist.



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